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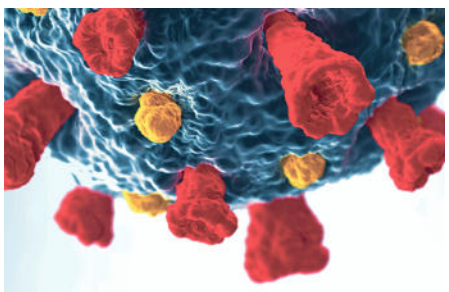

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CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Drive-thru testing open

Local hospitals launch defense to infection

Anne Saker Cincinnati Enquirer
USA TODAY NETWORK

UC Health opened the Cincinnati region's first testing tent for the novel coronavirus on Tuesday, pleading with residents to call primary care doctors first to get appointments for testing.

No walk-ups will be taken.

The tent went up Monday to the north of the West Medical Office Building on Burnet Avenue in Avondale, across from the Cincinnati Health Department.

UC Health spokeswoman Amanda Naigeleisen said patients can stay in their cars while providing samples for testing.

Hospital systems throughout Southwest Ohio and Northern Kentucky are ramping up extra facilities to test patients for the highly infectious novel coronavirus and to treat infected patients who then develop the

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- Opinion: Follow DeWine's lead. **4B**

Census lands in mailbox as undercount fears loom

From Staff Reports Cincinnati Enquirer
USA TODAY NETWORK

Across the Cincinnati region and the nation, the U.S. Census Bureau has reached out to every U.S. household as it begins the 2020 census.

Through Friday, the agency will send letters with a form, asking people to answer the census online, by mail or by phone.

Obstacles typically arise with the census, but issues with getting a good count in the Cincinnati region are expected to be focused in 11 communities.

If the counting problems weren't bad enough, the census is having trouble recruiting people to knock on doors of people who don't respond to the census in all local areas except Warren County.

A strong economy has made hiring difficult, even as the door-to-door survey in May, June and July could be complicated by the new coronavirus.

Roughly half of Cincinnati is considered hard to count by the Census Bureau because it has more than 20,000 vacant housing units, sparse internet access and high poverty – factors that combine to make the city a tough community to tally.

Obtaining an accurate count is critical because the census determines the allocation of $1.5 trillion in federal spending for states, counties and municipalities. The census also decides which states gain or lose congressional seats, with Ohio on the cusp of losing another congressional seat.

Cincinnati officials estimate the city will get $18,000 over 10 years for each resident who is counted. The city and Hamilton County have joined with

See CENSUS, Page 9A

'THIS IS ROUGH'

Restaurants are trying to ride out disruption

The dining room at Eli's Barbecue in East End is closed following Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine's order to close all bars and restaurants for dining in.
KAREEM ELGAZZAR/ THE ENQUIRER

Polly Campbell
Cincinnati Enquirer
USA TODAY NETWORK

On Sunday at 9 p.m. in Ohio and Monday morning in Kentucky, the ground shifted under the feet of restaurants and their owners.

To help curb the COVID-19 disease caused by the new coronavirus, the states' governors ordered restaurants and bars to close for dining in. So far, it's OK for people to pick up food or for restaurants to deliver.

But for an indefinite period, restaurants will not be able to make money as they have been accustomed, by serving customers at tables.

"We are just stunned," said Britney Ruby-Miller, president of Jeff Ruby Culinary Entertainment.

For some restaurants that already have systems set up for carryout and delivery, this may not be a fatal blow.

Others, which have never been geared toward delivery or takeout, are trying to shift operations toward that, especially to curbside pickup.

And some have simply decided to close for the duration, however long that is.

Salazar, Fausto, Court Street Lobster Bar, Trio, Embers, Revolution Rotisserie, Restaurant L, Jean-Robert's Table

See RESTAURANTS, Page 5A

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